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THE HARVEIAN  
ORATION  
DELIVERED BEFORE THE  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF LONDON  
ON OCTOBER 18, 1901

BY  
NORMAN MOORE, M.D.

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# THE HARVEIAN ORATION





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ON OCTOBER 18, 1901

BY

NORMAN MOORE, M.D.

FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE, ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN AND LECTURER  
ON THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE  
TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL

LONDON  
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET  
1901



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TO  
SIR WILLIAM SELBY CHURCH, BART.  
PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF LONDON  
AND TO  
THE FELLOWS OF THE COLLEGE  
THIS ORATION DELIVERED BEFORE THEM  
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY  
NORMAN MOORE



MR. PRESIDENT, FELLOWS OF THE COLLEGE,  
AND GENTLEMEN HONOURING US BY YOUR  
PRESENCE TO-DAY.

IT has long been the custom in the several ancient colleges of our universities to commemorate the founder and the benefactors on some particular day. The members of the College are assembled, the history of the Foundation is related with due solemnity, and the names of the benefactors are mentioned with honour and gratitude. Dr. William Harvey, the illustrious man by whose injunction we are assembled to-day, was familiar with this custom, for it was enjoined by the founder of his College at Cambridge, Dr. John Caius, a physician who not only possessed learning, but venerated it, and had considered those ceremonies and decorations which are as appropriate to learned societies as the fine paper, well - formed type, and beautiful bindings, in which great scholars and great readers such as Aldus and Grolier and Thuanus and Bentley delighted to see good literature clothed. It was

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Caius who gave us the silver rod which our President carries at every meeting of the College. He desired that we should be ruled with the mildness and clemency which a silver sceptre typifies, while the four serpents which ornament the sceptre are to remind the President that wisdom is to govern his conduct.

Dr. Caius, when in London, lived within the enclosure of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and the first College feast was held there in 1556, exactly a hundred years before the delivery of the first Harveian Oration. There Dr. Caius died in 1573, a benefactor of the study of medicine in which he was the first Englishman to write an original description of a disease,\* to learning in general by the foundation of his College at Cambridge, to the poor of London by a gift to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and to this College in several ways. In his annals of Caius College a resolution is recorded under the date October 6, 1531,† urging the duty of gratitude and of the remembrance and record of benefactors.

Thus it was early in life, at Caius, that Harvey learned the value of such acts of public gratitude

\* A Boke, or Counsell against the disease commonly called The Sweate or Sweatyng Sicknesse; made by Ihon Caius, doctour in Phisicke. 1552.

† Information kindly given by Dr. J. Venn of Caius College.

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as that which, on his institution, we keep to-day. Sir George Paget, a former Fellow of Caius and of this College, Regius Professor of Physic in the University of Cambridge, and an example there of all that a physician should be, has shown that it was probably the teaching of anatomy, instituted in his College by Caius, which led Harvey to those studies in which his fame is immortal. There, too, he was imbued with the spirit of good fellowship in learning which was then prevalent in the University, and has ever since pervaded its atmosphere. Caius had fostered this spirit in the College he founded, which, robed in the architectural garb of the Renaissance, appropriately comes into the view of a visitor to Cambridge immediately after the foundation of King Henry VI., refulgent with the last glorious rays of mediæval learning.

The poets who knew Cambridge have told in verse what every man, worthy of a liberal education, has felt. Milton of Christ's, disposed as he was to resist the natural effect of religious art, was nevertheless profoundly affected by great architecture, and has left the world the better by the impression which he received as an undergraduate from the Chapel of King's :

But let my due feet never fail  
To walk the studious cloisters pale,

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And love the high embowed roof,  
With antic pillars massy proof,  
And storied windows richly dight,  
Casting a dim religious light.

Wordsworth of St. John's, trying to study the depths of his own mind, found himself deeply affected by his surroundings :

I could not print  
Ground where the grass had yielded to the steps  
Of generations of illustrious men,  
Unmoved. I could not always lightly pass  
Through the same gateways, sleep where they had slept,  
Wake where they waked, range that enclosure old,  
That garden of great intellects, undisturbed.

Cowley of Trinity, a lesser poet than these, seems by the power with which he expressed another of the feelings of University life almost to justify Clarendon's remark that in his time he had in poesy "made a flight beyond all men."

Ye fields of Cambridge, our dear Cambridge, say  
Have ye not seen us walking every day,  
Was there a tree about which did not know  
The love betwixt us two.

The introduction into the family of great minds, the permanent association with a venerable collegiate home and its usages, the ties of



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friendship: by all these Harvey had been influenced during his residence at Cambridge from 1593 to 1598. When he migrated to this College in the midst of a busy world,

*Fumum et opes strepitumque Romæ,*

yet devoted to one of the highest branches of learning, he was kindly received. Two physicians deserve commemoration for their early kindness to him: one was Dr. Ralph Wilkinson of Trinity College, Cambridge, in relation to whom he occupied at St. Bartholomew's the position which, Mr. President, I now have the honour with infinite advantage and satisfaction to myself to occupy towards you. The other was Dr. Lancelot Browne of Pembroke College, Cambridge, who had been one of the proctors in 1573, the year in which Edmund Spenser of that College took his degree. Perhaps Browne was one of the learned wits of whom the poet was thinking when he celebrated the Cam in the *Fairie Queen* :

My mother Cambridge whom as with a crown,  
He doth adorne and is adorned of it,  
With many a gentle muse, and many a learned wit.

It was Dr. Browne's daughter Elizabeth\* whom Harvey married in 1604.

\* We know little about her, but her portrait at Burley-on-

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His life in our College was one of continued friendship and learned conversation. He was welcomed in his youth, applauded in his discoveries, venerated in his age. When his life ended in 1657 his body was accompanied beyond the walls of the city by the President and the whole College on its way to its last resting-place at Hempstead in Essex.

Our College was of about one-tenth its present size when Harvey was admitted, but it was nevertheless a society in which a great variety of learning was to be found, and where a man could spend his days with advantage. His entrance into it was gradual, for those were the days, as Clarendon says, "when men were seen some time before they were known, and well known before they were preferred." Harvey's relations with this College began in the first year of King James. At a meeting April 21, 1603, the Fellows had discussed whether they should go out to meet the King at his entry into London and salute him "solemni oratione." At the next meeting on May 4, 1603, "Mr. Harvie, doctor of medicine in the University of Padua, attended and presented himself for examination,

the-Hill shows her to have been tall, of a dark complexion and somewhat severe aspect.

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and when examined answered to all questions sufficiently well." Nevertheless he was put off to another time "*cum conniventia ad Praxin*," that is, with informal leave to practise in the interval. He appeared again April 2, 1604. "Dr. Harvie was examined for the second time for the degree of candidate and his answering approved." At his first examination he was the sole candidate, and only the President, Dr. Richard Forster, and three Fellows were present, a small attendance, perhaps due to the plague then prevalent. At the second examination, John Craige, the King's physician newly come with his Majesty from Scotland, Thomas Hearne, an Oxonian, who like Harvey had graduated at Padua, Thomas Lodge, the poet, and Thomas Rawlins of Clare Hall, Cambridge, were also examined and all approved but Lodge.

On May 11, 1604, Harvey was examined and approved for a third time, and had for his companions Rawlins, Hearne, Edward Elwin of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, afterwards physician to the King's household, and three poets, Matthew Gwin, Thomas Lodge, and Raphael Thorius. Of these poets Gwin was afterwards admitted a Fellow of the College. In our society, where for the most part we think,

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“Nobis non licet esse tam dissertis,  
Qui musas colimus severiores,”

it is remarkable that literature has never been neglected. In the translation of Plutarch's “Lives,” edited by Dryden, ten\* Fellows of this College, three of whom afterwards filled the office of President, took part, and to a greater biographical work of the present day, the greatest indeed which has appeared in our literature, you, Sir, have made a contribution as well as our learned librarian, Dr. Payne, and some other Fellows of the College.

At the present day we have in Robert Bridges a master of verse which is both praised and read. Arbuthnot, steeped in literature, gave a poetic form to thoughts which must constantly occupy the minds of physicians :

Am I but what I seem, mere flesh and blood,  
A branching channel, with a mazy flood,  
The purple stream that through my vessels glides,  
Dull and unconscious flows like common tides.  
The pipes through which the circling juices stray,

---

\* Dr. John Bateman (President 1716–18), Aratus ; Dr. Edward Browne (President 1704–7), Themistocles, Sertorius ; Dr. Walter Charleton (President 1689–91), Marcellus ; Dr. William Crowne, Pyrrhus ; Dr. Phineas Fowke, Phocion ; Dr. Charles Frazer, Marcus Antonius ; Dr. Thomas Fuller, Cicero ; Sir Samuel Garth, Otho ; Dr. Walter Needham, Agesilaus ; Dr. Thomas Short, Philopœmen.

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Are not that thinking I, no more than they.  
This frame compacted with transcendent skill  
Of moving joints obedient to my will,  
Nursed from the fruitful glebe like yonder tree  
Waxes and wastes: I call it mine not me.

Sir Samuel Garth was a popular poet for fifty years, and to this day one couplet in his "Dispensary,"

To die is landing on some distant shore,  
Where tempests never beat nor billows roar,

is known to every one because it was admired by Cowper, and is quoted by him in one of the most affecting poems in our language.\* Harvey himself is one of the heroes of the "Dispensary."

They hasten now to that delightful Plain,  
Where the glad Manes of the Bless'd remain :  
Where Harvey gathers simples, to bestow  
Immortal youth on Heroes' shades below.  
Soon as the bright Hygeia was in view,  
The Venerable sage her Presence knew.  
Thus he :  
Hail, blooming Goddess, thou propitious power,  
Whose blessings mortals more than life implore.  
With so much lustre your bright looks endear,  
That cottages are courts where those appear

---

\* Cowper, "On the Receipt of my Mother's Picture out of Norfolk":

"So thou with sails how swift hast reached the shore,  
'Where tempests never beat nor billows roar.'"

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Mankind as you vouchsafe to smile or frown  
Finds ease in chains, or anguish in a Crown.\*

The poets who began the march to fame with Harvey, and whose poetic fancies were afterwards so far surpassed in repute by his precise facts, deserve to be mentioned if only because they are associated with him on an important day of his life.

Matthew Gwin was the first Professor of Physic at Gresham College, where he lectured from 1598 to 1607. He was an accomplished Latinist, and took part in a medical disputation at Oxford for the entertainment of King James I. He had to argue on the question, Whether the morals of nurses are imbibed by infants with the milk. It was a delicate point, for the King had had a drunken nurse and was always anxious that he should not be thought to have imbibed her evil nature. The King drank a good deal, yet his most steadfast brain, says Sir Theodore Mayerne,† was never disturbed by sea or by wine.

Gwin published a Latin comedy called "*Vertumnus*," which was acted at Magdalen College, Oxford, and a Latin tragedy "*Nero*," based upon Tacitus, Suetonius, Dion Cassius, and Seneca.

\* "*Dispensary*," canto vi.

† MS. Sloane, 1679 (B.M.), fol. 42.



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The epilogue of the comedy,\* where three sibyls hail King James by the several titles of his increasing dominions, is sometimes thought to have suggested to Shakespeare the famous salutations of the witches in "Macbeth." The tragedy displays the reading of its author, but perhaps Dr. Gwin's last lines about Nero the Emperor may be applied to "Nero" the tragedy:

"Restatque de Nerone tam magno nihil  
Nisi quod sepulchrum condat aut ignis cremet."

Gwin had disputed before King James with Sir William Paddy, a benefactor here and at St. John's College, Oxford, as to whether smoking tobacco was conducive to health.

\* Ad Regis introitum e Ioannensi collegio extra portam Urbis Borcalem sito, tres quasi Sibyllæ (sic, ut e sylva) salutarunt.

Tres eadem pariter canimus tibi fata, tuisque,

Dum spectande tuis, e saltu accedis ad Urbem:

Teque salutamus: Salve, cui *Scotia* servit.

2. *Anglia* cui, salve. 3. Cui servit *Hibernia* salve.

1. *Gallia* cui titulos, terras dant cætera, salve.

2. Quem, divisa prius, colit una *Britannia* salve.

3. Summe Monarcha Britannice, Hibernice, Gallice salve.

Fastidias olim fama est cecinisse sorores

Imperium sine fine tuæ, Rex inelyte, stirpis.

*Banquonem* agnovit generosa *Loquabria* *Thanum*.

Nec tibi *Banquo*, tuis sed sceptrâ nepotibus illæ

Immortalibus immortalia vaticinatæ:

In saltum ut lateas, dum *Banquo* recedis ab Aula.

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Raphael Thorius, the licentiate who attended to be examined with Gwin and Harvey, treated the same subject in a poem of two books, and, in spite of the Royal opinion against tobacco, did not veil his own love for the fragrant weed, and begins his "Hymnus Tabaci"—

"Innocuos calices et amicam vatibus herbam  
Vimque datum folio, et lati miracula fumi  
Aggredior,"

and goes on to dedicate it to Sir William Paddy, than whom, says Thorius, no one knows better the varied powers of the disease-repelling plant. Thorius wrote many lesser poems, now chiefly interesting as showing his tastes and friendships. Three, which have never been printed, are addressed to L'Obel the botanist, who was in practice in England as an apothecary, but who is known to few of the many who have the lobelia growing in their gardens. In 1625 Thorius sent his wife and family out of London to preserve them from the plague, and diligently attending to his patients became infected and died.

Thomas Lodge, the third of the poets examined on the same day as Harvey, was a schoolfellow of Sir William Paddy, our President of 1609. He began life as a poet and ended it in the practice of medicine after a varied career, part of which was spent, as he says, "as a soldier and a scholler";



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other part as a sea rover, hardly to be distinguished from a pirate. His story of "Rosalynde," written at sea, "rough as hatcht in the stormes of the ocean and feathered in the surges of many perilous seas,"\* and published in 1590, will always be memorable in literature for some fine lyric verses, and still more as the source of the plot of Shakespeare's "As You Like It." Lodge was often unfortunate, in letters and in adventure, and was so in his entrance to this College, for he did not receive a licence till 1609. He more often expresses gloom than cheerfulness in his verses, and the feelings he exhibits in a stanza of "A Margarite of America," written amid "bitter and extreme frosts at midsummer" in the Straits of Magellan, seem to have been often his:

From height of throne to abject wretchednesse  
From wondrous skill to servile ignorance,  
From court to cart, from rich to recklesnesse,  
The joy of life hath no continuance,  
The King, the catiffe wretch, the lay, the learned,  
Their Crowns, woes, wants, and wits with grieve have  
earned.

On August 7, 1604, at the house of Dr. Forster, the President, Harvey and Elwin were again examined and approved, and Lodge rejected. On

\* "Rosalynde: Euphues golden legacie," London, 1590 (Hunterian Soc. reprint).

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October 5, 1604, the two former were sworn as candidates.

Of those who had been examined with him and approved, Harvey was the last to be elected a Fellow. At that period the influence of great persons was sometimes brought to bear upon the College in the election of Fellows : Dr. Rawlins had a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury : Dr. Gwin was recommended by Ellesmere the Lord Chancellor, and by Thomas Earl of Dorset, Lord Treasurer and Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and Dr. Elwin by the Earls of Suffolk, Northampton, and Salisbury, and by Lord Stanhope, and they were elected Fellows on December 22, 1605, and Harvey not till May 16, 1607. It is just to state that they were all older men. He took the oath and was admitted June 5, 1607, with two others, Dr. Matthew Lister, an Oxonian, and Dr. William Clement of Trinity Hall. Lister was afterwards knighted, and became physician to the Queen of James I. and to King Charles I. as well as to Mary, Countess of Pembroke, in whose house he spent much time. He must often have talked to Ben Jonson, another frequenter of her house, and was perhaps one of the first to read and admire the epitaph written for the stately tomb which she deserved, but which was never erected in Salisbury Cathedral, her place of burial :

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Underneath this sable hearse  
Lies the subject of all verse,  
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother ;  
Death ! ere thou hast slain another,  
Learn'd and fair and good as she,  
Time shall throw a dart at thee.

Clement, who, like Harvey, was a doctor of Padua, afterwards became Registrar of our College. Both he and Lister were industrious physicians, but all that has survived of their writings are four Latin verses by Lister and two by Clement, all in honour of the only medical book of Ralph Winterton, Regius Professor of Physic at Cambridge, a work which at its appearance received more praise from the learned than any book since written by a professor of medicine in that University. It is an edition of the aphorisms of Hippocrates with a translation into Greek verse by Winterton, with also a Latin prose version and a translation into Latin verse. It was lauded in Latin or Greek verse by seventeen Fellows of this College, and two who subsequently became Fellows, one of whom was the celebrated Francis Glisson ; \* by members of all the Colleges at Cambridge but one, and of several of the

\* “ Non opus ut tingant sua pharmaca *melle*, medendas :  
Ipsa sit in numeris *mel* Medicina tua.”

Franciscus Glisson, *Cantabr.* C. G. & C. Socius,  
Art. Mr. 1624, Medicinæ Licentiatus.

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Colleges at Oxford, while two University professors and the heads of Peterhouse, Queen's, Christ's, and Trinity commended it in Latin prose. What Johnson says of Pembroke College, Oxford, in his own time, "Sir, we are a nest of singing birds," might have been declared of the College of Physicians in the reign of King Charles I.

Dr. Henry Atkins, then President, and afterwards a benefactor of the College, was in the chair at the College meeting at which Harvey with Lister and Clement was admitted to the Fellowship. He was physician to James I., and is said to have been the first person to whom, in 1611, that monarch offered the new rank of baronet. The first edition of our *Pharmacopœia* was published in 1618 under his auspices. Fourteen other Fellows were present, ten of Harvey's University and four Oxonians,\* while three of the fourteen were doctors of Padua.†

\* Oxonians: Dr. Henry Atkins, Dr. Richard Foster (All Souls), Dr. Edward Jordan, Dr. Thomas Hearn (Brasenose), Dr. Matthew Gwin (St. John's). Cantabrigians: Dr. William Baronsdale (St. John's), Dr. Thomas Friar (Trinity), Dr. George Turner (St. John's), Dr. Ralph Wilkinson (Trinity), Dr. Thomas Moundeford, Dr. Mark Ridley (Clare), Dr. Edward Lister (King's), Dr. John Argent (Peterhouse), Dr. Daniel Selin (Magdalene), and Dr. Thomas Rawlins (Clare).

† Friar, Jordan, and Hearn.

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The business transacted after the new Fellows took their seats at the table is recorded in the annals :

Dr. Mark Ridley was elected a censor in the room of Dr. William Dun, deceased. It was resolved that Dr. Edward Elwin should entertain the Fellows at a feast on the first Tuesday in July next. Dr. Lister was to make preparations for the demonstrations in Anatomy. Every one was to try and learn where a certain Dr. Bonham had practised. Dr. Thomas Davis was elected Lumleian Lecturer in succession to Dr. William Dun. Harvey, it will be remembered, succeeded Davis in this Lectureship in 1615.

It would be pleasant to trace Harvey's relations with these and with the Fellows of subsequent elections throughout his time :

But at my back I always hear  
Time's winged chariot hurrying near.

One of those present at his admission was Dr. John Argent of Peterhouse, who became "*amicus suus singularis*," and to whom, with the College of which Argent was then President, he dedicated in 1628 his "*Exercitatio anatomica de Motu cordis et sanguinis in animalibus*." The dedication shows how happy was his association with his contemporaries : "Since my book alone

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doth assert the blood to move and circulate by a new route quite different from that held, taught and explained through so many ages by countless and most illustrious and learned men, I feared that I might be thought presumptuous if I should allow my little book, which had been completed some years back, to be published, or sent over sea, unless first I had stated it to you and had confirmed it by anatomical demonstration and had made answer to your doubts and objections and had received the judicial commendation of our illustrious President."

How plain are the friendly relations between Harvey and the other Fellows! Argent was his senior, as were those friends whom I have before mentioned, Wilkinson and Launcelot Browne, but he had also warm attachments among his juniors, none greater than those which bound him to George Ent and to Charles Scarborough. Ent was not three years old when Harvey was admitted a Fellow, and they probably met for the first time at Rome in 1636. Ent had gone thither after five years' study at Padua which had succeeded his graduation at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. They were both guests at dinner at the English College in Rome, October 5, 1636.\*

\* Munk, *Notæ Harveianæ*, "St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports," 1887.



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Lovers of truth and members of the same University, caring for the same branches of learning, easily become friends however different their ages, and the natural admiration which youth feels for old experience cements the friendship of generous minds. Of this there are fewer pictures more happy than Ent's account of Harvey in the dedication of the "*De generatione Animalium*" to the President and Fellows of the College of Physicians in 1651. His preservation of this interesting treatise, which might have been lost with other manuscripts of Harvey but for him, puts us under a debt of gratitude to Ent, who was President (1670-75) and Censor for twenty-two years; and was also one of our pecuniary benefactors.

Charles II. attended one of his anatomy lectures, and knighted him afterwards in the College. Thus it is in every way appropriate that his arms, sable\* between three hawk-bells a chevron or, should form part of the ornament of the Censor's room to which they were brought from the old college in Warwick Lane.

Charles Scarborough, knighted by Charles II. in 1669, was younger than Ent. He obtained a

\* The tincture of the field is azure in the Censor's room but sable in the fine engraving of Ent's arms on his graduation verses.

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Fellowship at Caius College, and ejected from his Fellowship as a royalist, entered at Merton College, Oxford, when Harvey was Warden, and ever after enjoyed his friendship. Thus what seemed a misfortune, as is so often the case, proved his greatest advantage, and he might have said more truly than Dryden :

Oxford to him a dearer name shall be  
Than his own mother University.

But this is no reason why a recent learned writer, in his "History of the Study of Mathematics at Cambridge," should speak of him as "a teacher of the mathematics at Cambridge, of whom I know nothing more." He was learned in mathematics, had a fine mathematical library, and translated Euclid. He was one of the famous men of his day, and every one who has read Johnson's "Lives of the Poets" will remember how Waller, when he found his legs grow tumid, "went to Windsor, where Sir Charles Scarborough then attended the King, and requested him, as both a friend and a physician, to tell him what that swelling meant. 'Sir,' answered Scarborough, 'your blood will run no longer.' Waller repeated some lines of Virgil and went home to die." Scarborough was physician to three kings in succession, but will always be best remembered as the friend of Harvey, and



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his successor, at Harvey's request, in the Lumleian Lectureship. Harvey left Ent five pounds to buy a memorial ring, and of Scarborough in his will says, "I give my velvet gown to my loving friend Dr. Scarborough," and "to Dr. Scarborough all my little silver instruments of surgerie."

These examples show Harvey's feelings towards the men with whom he spent his life. He had known something of what is called the "great world." Charles I. seems to have liked Harvey, who probably saw the King in his best aspect and in intellectual relations which brought out his mental abilities, and did not lead to the exhibition of those defects of character and of manner which more than the turbulence of his subjects, or the ambition of their leader, brought him to his tragic end. All Harvey's writings show him to have been simple and truthful, so that we may believe that what he had seen of the King had bred in him the admiration expressed in the dedication of his great book, where he compares the heart of animals, the sun of their microcosm, to the King in the State, the sun of his microcosm.

Harvey went to Italy in 1636 with Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel. That nobleman's figure and manner are known to subsequent generations by his portrait in armour by

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Rubens, and his description in Clarendon's History :

“ It cannot be denied,” says the statesman, “ that he had in his person, in his aspect and countenance, the appearance of a great man, which he preserved in his gait and motion. He wore and affected a habit very different from that of the time, such as men had only beheld in the pictures of the most considerable men, all which drew the eyes of most and the reverence of many towards him as the image and representative of the primitive nobility and native gravity of the nobles when they had been most venerable.” Even if he knew only a little about the vast collection of marbles, paintings, and manuscripts, which he made abroad, his table must have been one at which the conversation was worth attention. But it was in his own profession and in this College that Harvey found his most congenial society. Here were his happiest associations, and the endowment of the oration was a sort of memorial of his life in the College.

How many men have generously tried, without vanity and in pure goodness of heart, to preserve for future generations some reminiscence precious to them of something in their own lives ? What more striking example of this motive of benefaction could there be than the history of two

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Fellows of our College, Sir John Finch and Sir Thomas Baines? Finch, son of Sir Heneage Finch, Speaker of the House of Commons, graduated at Oxford in 1647. Two years later he went to reside in Christ's College, Cambridge, where he was introduced by Henry More, the Platonist, then tutor, to Thomas Baines of that College. They became friends at once, and the times making life in England uncomfortable for loyal men, both went to Padua, and there graduated M.D. On the King's restoration they came to England, and on February 26, 1661, were both elected Fellows of this College, a circumstance which it is proper to mention to-day, since our annals declare that the election, which was not to be drawn into a precedent, was, on account of all the benefits conferred on the College by the illustrious Dr. Harvey, "*nobis nunquam sine honore nominandi*," and by his brother Eliab. Finch's brother, the first Earl of Nottingham, a prominent and incorruptible statesman of Charles II.'s reign, had married Harvey's niece Elizabeth, the daughter of his brother Daniel, and it is a pleasant example of the honour in which Harvey was held after his death that this connection was the ground of the election. I have seen a letter which shows that Harvey was respectfully remembered at Burley-on-the-Hill. It was written in 1719, and is dated

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“December 28th, the day on which poor Queen Mary died,” and is addressed to Daniel, second Earl of Nottingham, by his wife. She is anxious about his health, and advises him to copy from “your father’s receipt-book, where, among some directions of Dr. Harvey’s, I think there’s one how the bone of a stag’s heart is to be taken.” Her ladyship adds that it may be unnecessary to take so serious a remedy, but that none the less it will be well for her lord to have it by him.

Finch cared for no honour which could not be equally conferred upon Baines, and when the King knighted him for services to the Royal cause performed in Tuscany his request that his friend might be knighted too was granted.

In almost every letter home Finch mentions Baines, and what is not always the case in such friendships, the family of Sir John Finch seem to have shared his attachment as well as his respect for Baines as a physician. “Most dear nephew,” says the Ambassador, August 21, 1680, writing from Pera: “Sir Thomas Baines will write about the indisposition of your daughter,” and the nephew, Lord Nottingham, writes to a friend: “The loss of Sir Thomas Baines was very great to me, for I am sure he loved me.”

They were soon after incorporated Doctors of Medicine at Cambridge at the same congregation. In 1665 Finch was sent as Minister to the Grand

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Duke of Tuscany, and in 1672 he succeeded Sir Daniel Harvey, Harvey's nephew, as Ambassador to the Sultan. Baines went to each Court as physician to the Embassy, and it was known, as is told in the Life of Sir Dudley North, that if you wanted to obtain any privilege at the Embassy you must convince both Finch, the Ambassador, and Baines, whom the merchants called the Chevalier.

Baines died in September 1682, and Finch resigned his office and returned home with the body. "I need not tell you," says his nephew in a letter which I have seen, "how deplorable a condition my poor uncle was in to lose so good a friend after thirty-six years acquaintance." A few months later he died not so much of fever and pleurisy as of the loss of Sir Thomas Baines. They founded two Fellowships and two Scholarships in remembrance of their own life-long friendship and in the hope that other such friendships might in after times be formed. They were both of dark complexion and grave aspect, as may be seen in two singularly fine portraits by Carlo Dolci in the drawing-room of Burley-on-the-Hill.\* They are buried under one marble canopy in the Chapel of Christ's:

\* I have to thank G. H. Finch, Esq., M.P., of Burley-on-the-Hill, for kindly allowing me to examine several papers of Sir John Finch and Sir Thomas Baines.



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Whom joined in fame in friendship try'd,  
No chance could sever nor the grave divide.

It was a similar feeling arising from the recollection of past happiness which led Harvey, who had often sat at table with the Fellows of this College and had enjoyed their conversation and lectured here for nearly forty years, to establish the ceremony in which we take part to-day to commemorate benefactors, to promote kindly feeling, and to remind physicians that it is one of their duties to wrest secrets from Nature for the improvement of medicine and the consequent benefit of mankind.

The oration used, as he had desired, to be in Latin, then the language of learning, of diplomacy and of the literature which every educated man made his own—the Latin not only of the classics but of Augustine and Jerome, of Justinian, of Anselm, of Erasmus, of Scaliger, and of Grotius. The sympathy of our College with the revival of classical learning naturally led our orators to use the Latin of the Augustan age, not that living language, as it might justly be called, of the Church and the Law, so often condemned by scholars, but deserving of our respect as men, when we consider how many great minds have thought in it, and how closely it is often associated with the very highest aspirations of mankind. It was, of course, the custom of

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Fellows of this College to address the learned in their works and to write in Latin. Few medical books of the highest order were written in English by the Fellows of our College before "The Morbid Anatomy of some of the most important Parts of the Human Body" of Dr. Matthew Baillie, afterwards a generous benefactor, which appeared in 1793, and the last great book in Latin was the "Commentarii de Morborum Historia et Curatione" of Dr. William Heberden, which was published in 1802, twelve months after his death in his ninety-first year.

Let no one be led by a veneration for Latin literature to regret that our own language has since 1864 been substituted for Latin at this celebration.

When Harvey gave his first lectures, English literature was already rich, for the works of Shakespeare were complete, and Chaucer, Spenser, Marlowe and Beaumont, and in prose the Chronicles, and the English writings of More, Fisher, Latimer and Hooker, some fine versions of classical authors, the first collection of Bacon's Essays, and many other good books were easily to be obtained, yet men had hardly come to understand with Ben Jonson how far the literature of the ancients had been surpassed.\*

\* Ben Jonson, "To the Memory of my Beloved Master William Shakespeare, and what he hath left us."

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I will not seek  
For names, but call forth thund'ring Eschylus,  
Euripides, and Sophocles to us,  
Pacuvius, Accius, him of Cordova dead,  
To live again, to hear thy buskin tread,  
And shake a stage: or when thy socks were on,  
Leave thee alone for the comparison  
Of all that insolent Greece, or haughty Rome,  
Sent forth, or since did from their ashes come.  
Triumph my Britain, thou hast one to show  
To whom all scenes of Europe homage owe.  
He was not of an age but for all time,  
And all the Muses still were in their prime,  
When like Apollo he came forth to warm  
Our ears, or like a Mercury to charm.

Since Harvey's day our literature, great as it was even then, has received such excellent and varied additions that it must always live among the noblest literatures of the world. How far do the speeches of Burke, greatest of political philosophers, surpass those of Cicero and of Demosthenes in depth of thought and in grandeur of expression; with splendid sentences, yet owing their force not to ornament, but to the perfection with which they make clear the lofty argument and profound consideration of the subject! The verses of Dryden and of Milton, of Cowper, and of Byron have shown what force metre may give to English, while the prose of Clarendon and Dryden, of Swift and Addison, of Bentley, of Johnson, of Fielding, of



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Goldsmith, of Blackstone, of Macaulay, and of Newman, exhibit the extraordinary variety of excellence possible in the language. Is not Herrick superior to Catullus; and what ancient comedy approaches "She Stoops to Conquer" in the happy combination of the comedy of words with the comedy of action? Will not the letters of Cowper, and of Swift, and of Gilbert White bear comparison with those of Cicero and of Pliny? What is there in Latin literature which can be compared with the novels of Fielding or of Thackeray? Who would prefer Petronius Arbiter, or even considering the Latin of later times, and to mention one of the few romances which Harvey is likely to have read, who would be well advised to take up the *Argenis* of Barclay when he had within reach the "Vicar of Wakefield," the "Pickwick Papers," or the happy delineations of English everyday life of Jane Austen?

Great as must always be our admiration for classical Latin, willingly as we must reverence its dignity, its precision, its grace, deeply as we must feel that we have no authors who are the equals of Virgil, and of Horace, and of Lucretius in their several kinds, let us never regret its disuse on this day, since we have substituted for it the language of our own far greater literature.

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Harvey, following the good old custom which he had observed at Cambridge in accordance with the injunctions of Caius, desired us to commemorate our benefactors by name. We are not a rich society, but we have had many benefactors. Some good men have given us land and money, others have given us books, some pictures or busts, while others again—and these are perhaps the greatest benefactors of all—have added to our corporate glory by the fame of their discoveries or of their learning. All these are our benefactors. We are grateful for a charter to the Sovereign who then styled himself “Henry, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland.” He favoured us in his best days, and when in the tenth year of his reign he established our corporate existence, he deserved the commendations of More, who says in a letter to Bishop Fisher: “He is so affable and courteous to all men that each one thinks himself his favourite.”

Some of those to whom gratitude is due\* I have already mentioned, and as I cannot pretend to so terse a style as Thomas Newton of Cheshire, who praises two hundred and fifteen botanists in fifty-four Latin hexameters, I cannot hope to mention all our other benefactors as they deserve.

\* Henry Lyte, “A New Herbal,” London, 1619, p. vi.

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Thomas Linacre, our founder, who has impressed upon succeeding generations of physicians in England his own high ideal of what a physician's character and learning should be, lived on the southern slope of the hill which has since the seventh century been crowned by St. Paul's Cathedral. In the midst of the din of modern traffic, and the modern aspect of the buildings which have replaced every fragment of antiquity, it is difficult to see anything but the life of to-day, yet in the quiet of the hour after sunrise on a summer Sunday morning no visitor read in history can fail to feel with how much that is worth remembering the region has been associated. He may imagine in successive ages of the past, Earconwald, the bishop of the East Saxons, borne in his litter to the cathedral, and later the long stream of pilgrims passing from the landing-place at Blackfriars through Pilgrim Street into Ludgate and to the shrine of St. Earconwald, and the Earl of Warwick, the King-maker, and his men-at-arms marching up the slope to his great house on its north side in Warwick Lane, and the funeral processions of greater warriors still, Nelson and Wellington, and many pageants more. In Linacre's time the river Fleet flowed to its estuary at Blackfriars past the foot of Ludgate Hill, whence the gardens of Holborn, a little later celebrated by Gerard for

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their roses, might be seen; while on the same bank, but farther down, was the stately palace of Bridewell, of the gate of which some indication may still be seen as you walk towards Blackfriars. Here it was often Linacre's duty to attend, and Dr. Payne, the author of the best biography of our founder, has pointed out a passage in Paulus Jovius where Lily mentions having seen Linacre sitting in his doctor's gown on the Royal daïs—royalty was not then so fenced about as in our day, and a schoolboy might elbow his way into the crowd in the King's hall. His house in Knight Rider Street was the first home of our College. He seems to join the ancient and the modern world, for he could remember the printing of the first book in England, and learned Greek from Demetrius Chalcondylas, a Greek of Byzantium, who read Homer as we should read Chaucer, conscious that the poems were in our own tongue whatever differences there might be of vocabulary or of phrase. Our library contains the noble Milan edition of 1499 of the Greek Lexicon of Suidas, which was prepared by Linacre's teacher. It has no title-page, like many of the early printed books, but begins with a dialogue in Greek between the bookseller and a learned man, which ends in an inquiry as to the price. "*χρυσῶν τριῶν*," three gold - pieces, says Bibliopoles. "Take

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them, and give me the book," replies Philomathes. It is easy to imagine with what pleasure our founder must have contemplated such a book. The type is perhaps a reproduction of the Greek hand of Demetrius. Well formed it is and impressed upon fine paper, yet as the text extends line after line over the pages with no interval or break, except the τέλος τοῦ στοιχείου and ἀρχὴ τοῦ στοιχείου of each letter, it brings home to a modern reader how much more perfect is the apparatus of learning in our day. We are sometimes told that so much is known now that there is no longer time to read books through, and that men cannot seek knowledge in more than one direction. A comparison of this Suidas with a modern lexicon would rather suggest that, where the means of acquiring it have become so much easier, there must be time to learn more than in the days of our founder.

Sir William Paddy, who was well known to Harvey, was a benefactor of St. John's College, Oxford, as well as of this College, where he was President (1609-10-11-18). He is addressed by Thorius in words equally applicable to our present President:

"Tu qui censu decoratus Equestri  
Virtutem titulis, titulos virtutibus ornas."

He was physician to Laud. "Few excellent



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men," says Clarendon of the Archbishop, "have ever had fewer friends to their persons," but Paddy was one of the few and a very faithful one. He left his library to St. John's, a fine collection of the scientific books of his time. Chancing to visit that library, I asked if there was a separate list of his books, and whether they could be pointed out in the cases. Receiving a negative reply to both questions, I asked for Gilbert "de Magnete," thinking that Paddy would be sure to have a copy of that great work, of which the author, one of our benefactors, was President here in 1600 when he was censor. A fine copy was produced, and on the first leaf was written, "Liber Gulielmi Paddy." This clue made it easy to find several others of his books, Turner's new Herbal of 1551, Gerard's Herbal of 1597, Rondeletius and Guido, Fallopius and Laurentius, and that rare work of our Fellow, Edward Wotton, "De Differentibus Animalium," dedicated to Edward VI. and published in 1552, one of the first printed books on Zoology by an Englishman. These required seeking on the shelves, but one book which belonged to Paddy is well known to every visitor to the library, for it is displayed in a table-case.

It is a Royal copy of the 1615 edition of the Book of Common Prayer, and contains, in Paddy's hand, an account of the last hours of King

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James I. As our late Librarian, Dr. Munk, to whose "Roll" the fame of the College in the world of letters owes a good deal, and who wrote a paper on the death of the king, was unacquainted with Paddy's record, it is perhaps known to few Fellows of the College, and deserves to be read here as a memorial of our former President and benefactor.

"Being sent for," writes Sir William Paddy, "to Thibautte but two daies before the death of my sovraigne Lord and master King James, I held it my Christian dutie to prepare him telling him that ther was nothing left for me to doe (in the afternoone before his death the next daie at noone) butt to pray for his soule. Whereupon the archbyshop and the Lord Keeper, Byshop of Lincolne demanded iff his majestie would be pleased that they sholde praye with hym. Whereunto he cheerfullie accorded and after short praier these sentences were by the Byshop of Lincolne distinctlie pronounced unto hym who with his eies the gates of his hart lifted up unto heaven att the end of every sentence gave to us all thereby, a godly assurance of those Graces and livelie faith whereunto he apprehended the Merit of our Lord and onlie Saviour Christ Jesus accordinglie as in his godlie life he had often publiquelie professed.

"WILL PADDY."

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The forty-one sentences which Bishop Williams recited to the King are written down ending with the last verse of the *Te Deum*: “*In te Domine speravi non confundar in æternum.*”

Sir William Paddy died in 1634. In that year another benefactor was President, and continued so for seven years—Simeon Fox, educated at Eton and at King's College, Cambridge. He was present in the Great Hall at Padua on Thursday, April 25, 1602, when Harvey took his degree and saw him receive the insignia and ornaments of the doctorate, when the books were given to him first shut and then open, a golden ring placed upon his finger, the doctoral cap put upon his head, and finally the kiss of peace given to him with the blessing of authority.\* The name of Simeon Fox and those of Anthony Fortescue, Richard Willeby, Mathew Lister, Peter Munsel,

\* “*Libros primo clausos mox et apertos annulum aureum digito ipsius indidit: Biretum Doctorale capiti suo imposuit in signum Virtutis coronæ, Pacisque osculum ei cum Magistrali Benedictione exhibuit*” (Harvey's diploma preserved in the College). In a diploma of the degree of Doctor of Laws in the University of Ferrara, dated June 25, 1506, which I chanced to see in Algiers, the corresponding words were: “*Nam librum eidem in manus tradidit clausum primo deinde apertum, biretumque sive diadema doctorale capiti ejus imposuit sub inde ipsum annulo aureo subauravit, sibi pacis osculum cum benedictione magistrali exhibendo.*”



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and Robert Darcey, Englishmen, are recorded with others in the finely decorated diploma as witnesses to the ceremony. The only extant work of Fox is a Latin poem of twenty-nine lines addressed to Winterton. He lived in the house which formed part of the College in Amen Corner, and is buried in St. Paul's Cathedral. The bust erected in his honour in the College was unfortunately calcined in the Great Fire of London.

It would be easy, if we had but time to-day, to find something interesting to tell of each one of our benefactors. I should like to commemorate Assuerus Regemorter, Glisson's fellow-worker, by taking the College to the famous private school in Goldsmith's Rents, Redcross Street, where he was educated by Thomas Farnaby, that industrious editor of Juvenal and Seneca and Martial, Lucan, Ovid, Terence, and Virgil.

How delightful to accompany Dr. Edward Browne, son of Sir Thomas Browne, and our President in 1704, in his travels to Larissa, where he hoped to breathe the atmosphere in which Hippocrates had practised, and to know a little more of the father of medicine by contemplating the features of the country in which he had verified or established those aphorisms of medicine, the first of which is to this day placed before

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each individual Fellow at every meeting of our College. We might hear Alexander Rhead lecturing to the surgeons and barbers in Monkwell Street at their hall, good artists as they called themselves, sound practitioners as we should say, differing from their professional descendants of to-day in the fact that, instead of thinking, as I find most of my surgical colleagues do, that nearly all diseases, whether internal or external, are curable by the knife, they were inclined to administer medicines with which they were imperfectly acquainted, and which the law forbade them to use.

If we cannot forget the words of Hippocrates and the sceptre of Dr. Caius which are exhibited to us at every meeting, surely we must also remember Dr. John Lawson of Queen's College, Cambridge, our President in 1694, who gave us the handsome mace which is borne before the President.

We are quaintly reminded on the Postridie palmarum of the devotion to our College of Dr. Baldwin Hamsey, one of our largest benefactors, when we each receive from his estate half-a-crown. No one has ever surpassed him in his love for the College and admiration of Harvey, whom he knew in the College for more than twenty years. In 1625 he went to Hastings on his way to Holland. He had supper with

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the mayor, who dreamed afterwards that Hamey should be detained and set a guard at his inn. He was thus unable to join the vessel when she sailed, a sudden storm within an hour caused the ship to founder with all on board, and thus the mayor's suspicions, which perhaps arose from the learned character of Hamey's talk at his table, saved his life. He was a loyal man, and gave the King a valuable ring at the restoration which he had bought at the sale of King Charles I.'s effects, and in justification of his occasional attendance at the sermons of the Commonwealth men, it is mentioned that he used to read an Aldine Virgil bound in vellum, or a little Aristophanes bound in red and with clasps, all the time.

Charles Goodall, President 1708-12, was another man devoted to the College and a zealous defender of its privileges. We who have known the labours and the fidelity of Sir Henry Pitman and Dr. Edward Liveing in the College of our time can have no difficulty in the grateful remembrance of a similar man in the past. He was a friend of Sydenham, who admired both his character and his skill, and dedicated his "Schedula Monitoria" to him.

Sir Hans Sloane, our President 1719-35, was thought worthy to succeed Sir Isaac Newton in 1727 as President of the Royal Society. The

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μεγαλοπρέπεια of Aristotle, the generous splendour suitable to a great man, was displayed by him through a long life, and the institution of the British Museum was due to the discerning liberality with which he disposed of his vast and valuable collections at his death. Hans Place and Sloane Street appropriately preserve his memory on the estate which he had purchased and where he lived during thirteen years of an intelligent old age.

Two recent benefactors must not be omitted: Sir Hermann Weber, who founded in 1895 a handsome prize in memory of Dr. E. A. Parkes, and Captain Edward Wilmot Williams, who founded a gold medal in memory of Dr. Francis Bisset Hawkins, his kinsman, long the Senior Fellow of this College.

We are assembled in our library and must not forget those who have enriched it. To men who regard the world of books as a region only second to the world of men in its interest, ours is a delightful collection. It is in great part composed of the successive gifts of men who had loved their books and represents the reading of twelve generations of well-read physicians. Linacre our founder, and Dr. Holsbosch, and Gilbert the discoverer of the magnetism of the earth, and the Marquis of Dorchester, friend of Harvey and of Scarborough, Sir Theodore

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Mayerne, physician to Henry IV. of France, and to James I., Charles I., and Charles II., a man of extraordinary learning and ability: these were some of the earlier benefactors. After them comes Dr. Richard Hale, whose portrait justly occupies a prominent place here. He was of Trinity College, Oxford, and though an enlightened and well-informed physician, took pleasure in mediæval treatises, enjoyed the *Flos medicinæ* of the School of Salernum, and walked with pleasure in the garden in which that flower grows beside the *Rosa Anglica* and the *Rosa Gallica*, perhaps murmuring as he went:

“Cur moriatur homo cui salvia crescit in horto?

Contra vim mortis: non est medicamen in hortis.”

Later still comes Richard Brocklesby, a schoolfellow of Burke and his friend throughout life. He was a generous giver: to Burke, to Johnson, to his nephew Thomas Young, one of our Fellows, the exponent of hieroglyphics, the originator of the undulatory theory of light, and to our library, and I am sure in many other directions no longer remembered.

“What I spent,” says the old epitaph, “I had. What I kept I lost. What I gave I have.” Brocklesby understood its meaning.

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Johnson himself gave us a book, and we owe a debt of gratitude to one other of that great literary circle, for Sir Joshua Reynolds went to much trouble for us as to the cleaning of our pictures.

In later days Sir Andrew Clark gave a handsome bookcase filled with books, and Dr. Pye-Smith a fine solid case for the display of some of the treasures of our library.

Our present librarian, Dr. Payne, has given several rarities from his own fine library to ours.

There have been endowed in the College, at different times, five Lectureships. The oldest was founded in 1581 by Dr. Richard Caldwell and John, Lord Lumley. Caldwell, an Oxonian, was President in 1570. Only one of his writings has survived, a translation of the *Tables of Surgerie* of Horatius Morus of Florence, and his ornate tomb, described by Camden, perished with the Church of St. Benet's, Paul's Wharf, in the Great Fire of London, so that the Lectureship is the chief memorial of his learning and virtues.

John, Lord Lumley, was not unworthy to be his associate. He was of Queen's College, Cambridge, and had a noble library, parts of which are preserved in the British Museum, in the Bodleian, and in the Public Library at



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Cambridge: and he wrote a translation of the "Institution of a Christian Prince of Erasmus." The conversation in Lumley Castle must have been interesting, for its lord, besides his knowledge of books, had taken a part in many affairs of state, and his wife, daughter of the twelfth Earl of Arundel, was as learned as her lord. She translated the "Iphigenia" of Euripides and some orations of Isocrates into English, and one oration into Latin.

The founder of our Lectureship died in 1609, and was buried in the aisle, which he added, in 1592, to the Church of St. Dunstan at Cheam.\* The inscription traces on his tomb his descent from the times of King Edward the Confessor, and in its marble ornament with nineteen surrounding shields of arms showed how fully he, whose father was attainted and executed at Tyburn, had restored the ancient wealth and honours of his family.

The next Lectureship is that founded in 1632 by Dr. Theodore Goulston, a Fellow of this College, who was educated at Merton College, Oxford. He was a person of much learning, and translated into Latin, with commentaries, two books of Aristotle and several of the

\* It now stands as an isolated building in the churchyard, the rest of the church having been rebuilt.

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“Opuscula” of Galen. He lived in the same parish as Harvey, that of St. Martin by Ludgate, and as he was censor in the year in which Harvey was appointed Lumleian Lecturer, while they were censors together in a later year, knew him well. The rector of their parish was Samuel Purchas, editor of “Hakluytus Redivivus or Purchas his Pilgrims,” and it is easy to imagine that this author, who had been at Cambridge during Harvey’s time there, was now and then admitted to the society of Goulston and Harvey, and perhaps amused them with tales from the records of voyages of which he possessed the manuscripts. Goulston’s “Opuscula Varia” of Galen was published by his friend, Thomas Gataker, in 1640, after the editor’s death. Harvey possessed a handsomely bound copy, now in the British Museum, in which he has written many notes, especially on the *Exhortatio ad Medicinam et Artes*, the *de Sectis ad Tyrones*, the *de Cognoscendis et Corrigendis Animi Perturbationibus*, and the two other treatises on the mind.

A third Lectureship was planned by Dr. William Croune, a Fellow of the College in 1684, and was formally established by his widow in 1706. He had been a Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and became Professor of Rhetoric at



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Gresham College and read several papers before the Royal Society, of which he was one of the earliest Fellows.

No further Lectureship was founded till 1880, when the widow of Dr. William Wood Bradshaw, a Member of the College, founded an annual Lecture in memory of her husband.

In 1886, Dr. Gavin Milroy, a Fellow of the College, founded a Lectureship in State Medicine and Public Hygiene.

These five Lectureships are devoted to clinical medicine, pathology, anatomy, physiology, and public health, but neither here nor in any of our Universities are there public lectures on the history of medicine.

The history of medicine may perhaps be divided into three parts. One belongs to the general study of philosophy, the exposition of the theories and the arguments to support them which have been used in past ages. This is chiefly of interest in relation to the study of the human mind. A second part treats of the lives and the work of physicians of past times. This cannot but instruct us, who have the same difficulties and the same objects. The third is the study of the cases and epidemics of past times as they appear not only in medical writers but in general history. This is perhaps the most

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useful of all. In the mistaken interpretation of accurately recorded phenomena in old times we have before us a picture of our own errors in the interpretation of what we discover at the bedside and a warning against too great deference to prevalent systems of treatment.

To learn anything from the history of medicine in any of these branches it is first necessary to know medicine, and the only valuable writers on the subject have been well-informed physicians like Dr. John Freind, whose "History of Physic" is the most considerable work on the subject in our language; or Dr. Payne, whose devotion to pathology and to clinical medicine is as well known as his lucid exposition of the learning of past centuries. It is fortunate that the opportunity has occurred of establishing such lectures.

The wife of a learned man desires to perpetuate his memory in a way grateful to him by the foundation in this College of a Lectureship on the history of medicine. He was a Member of the College, and she wishes that the benefaction shall be considered to come from him and be called after him, as in the case of Dr. Croune, whose wishes as to a Lectureship were carried out by his widow, Lady Sadleir. No occasion seems more appropriate than this to mention to the

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College this gift of a sum of £2000 to be invested in the usual way for this purpose on conditions similar to those of our ancient Lectureships, which must, of course, be formally laid before our Comitia Majora, and will, I do not doubt, be accepted there, since, when I lately mentioned them by letter to the Comitia Minora, you, Sir, informed me that the President and Censors were prepared to recommend the College to accept the gift.

Dr. Thomas Fitz-Patrick, who must hereafter be mentioned as one of our benefactors, was born in 1832 at Virginia, a little country town standing at the end of a long lake in Cavan. Although one of the least wealthy parts of Ireland, the surrounding district is one of literary fame. In the boyhood of our benefactor the epigrams and other poems of Philip MacBradaigh (commonly called Pilip Ministeir) and his touching lines on his daughter's affection were known to every one, as well as those of his kinsman Fiachra MacBradaigh, a country schoolmaster of ready wit, who flourished in the reigns of George I. and George II.

The itinerant fiddlers and pipers who had taken the place of the harpers of more remote times all knew the songs of Cathair MacCaba, who died in 1740, and was a harper as well as a poet and the friend of O'Carolan, the most famous

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of all Irish musical composers, who addressed to him a pleasant poem, “Rath do cheirde fein ort” (here is the reward of your own art). The ancient churchyard of Moybologue in which MacCaba is buried contains also the mortal remains of Brian O’Clery, a somewhat later poet of the same century, descended from a famous race of hereditary historians whose chronicles are one of the chief sources of information about mediæval Ireland. His poem on Spring and others of his verses were often recited, and his early death lamented. John O’Neachtan’s poems on the Death of Mary of Modena, Queen of James II., and on the Duke of Berwick, and many other compositions of his circulated in the district. John O’Farrelly of Mullagh, a village about five miles from Fitz-Patrick’s birthplace, and where he first practised his profession, wrote the history of the district under the title of “Seanchas an da Bhreifhne.”

A romance by Brian O’Reilly entitled “Eachtra Mheic na Mhiochomhairle” (the adventures of the son of evil counsel), was read or repeated by great turf fires in many farmhouses on winter nights, though such, in Fitz-Patrick’s youth, was the poverty of the district that even rushlights were rare, and a splinter of bog fir or twigs of dry furze thrown into the fire supplied the light by which all these writings were read from manuscripts.

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It is right to mention these authors and their works, obscure elsewhere, but long well known in that part of Cavan, in order to show how much love of literature there was, and I agree with that great scholar, the late Mr. Henry Bradshaw, in respecting the ill-remunerated scribes who copied these works in manuscript, and the authors who composed them without hope of other reward than local fame.

Nor were the literary associations all in the native language, for Henry Brook, author of "The Fool of Quality," a novel once widely read, lived at Corfada, between Virginia and Mullagh, as did his accomplished daughter Miss Charlotte Brook, whose "Reliques of Irish Poetry" is a handsome quarto to be seen in most good eighteenth-century libraries. Close to Virginia is Quilca, the home of Dr. Thomas Sheridan, the editor of *Perseus*, where Swift was a frequent guest, and many stories of the famous Dean of St. Patrick's were current in the neighbourhood in Fitz-Patrick's youth and later.

In the next field to the fragment of wall which is at the present day all that is left of the house of Henry Brook, a small but ancient cairn near a disused well marks the birthplace of a learned person of very ancient times: St. Cilian of Würzburg, in the seventh century,



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the apostle of Franconia. The varied literary associations of his native district had, no doubt, a great effect in giving Fitz-Patrick a taste for literature of all kinds. He graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained several prizes, and became a member of this College in 1868. He was a man imbued with learning, well read in Homer and in Lucretius, and a student of the Spanish text of "Don Quixote." He knew Italian and French and German as well as something of Hebrew, of modern Greek and of Danish. His knowledge of English literature was extensive and his taste good. He had travelled as well as read, and having thus accumulated all the materials for conversation he was a delightful companion. His intellectual attainments were the ornaments of solid virtues, and he deserves to be remembered with honour in this honourable place.

I could mention many more worthy benefactors, and, as in private duty bound, you, Sir, and the Fellows would sit on till I had ended their praises, but I must remember that we have guests who may exclaim with Macbeth:

What! will the line stretch out till the crack of doom?

so, like an old charter, I will end my list with

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the words "*cum multis aliis.*" We are grateful to them all and will always maintain their fame.

As to the last parts of Harvey's exhortation, how can they be better carried out than by considering the examples of the investigation of nature and the maintenance of friendship, which the College itself affords?

Harvey himself, first of all, beloved in his time, untiring in his observations, considering them and stating their results in every aspect during all the years from 1616 to 1628, and ending in the certainty that the blood in the animal body is impelled in a circle and is in a state of ceaseless movement, that this is the action which the heart performs by means of its pulse, and that this is the sole end of the contraction of the heart.

Think how the pulse had been studied before, in the thirteen books of Galen, by Rufus of Ephesus, by Philaretus and by many more, yet never understood, because an hypothesis resting on too small a basis of observation prevented men from seeking out the truth of nature by way of experiment.

Then Francis Glisson, labouring for five years and more at the observation of a disease undescribed before, and ending with a perfect pathological and clinical treatise

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on rickets, the first of its kind to appear in England.

Heberden, whose commentaries, while they contain no single great discovery, yet are so original in every line, though treating of many common things, that they are a continued discovery of all that may be seen at the bedside.

Sir George Baker working out the causes and the results of lead poisoning in the cider country and leaving no step unassured on the way.

Sir William Jenner toiling at the bedside and in the post-mortem room, and by the method which Harvey urged upon us, "*ἀντροψία* non mentis agitatio," demonstrating the true character of enteric fever and its distinction from the typhus fever with which it had so long been confounded.

Many of my predecessors have dwelt at length on the discoveries of Harvey himself. I should like to have done so too had I not felt bound to follow his own injunctions and to commemorate our benefactors, a task perhaps easier to perform, for it requires great talents to frame a composition worthy of his fame, and to be so great a master of words as to utter praises equal to his merits, who left us so great a discovery, won and earned



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by his own genius. The lines of Lucretius on Epicurus may justly be used to praise Harvey :

“ Quis potis est dignum pollente pectore carmen  
Condere pro rerum majestate hisque refertis ?  
Quisve valet verbis tantum qui fingere laudes  
Pro meritis ejus possit qui talia nobis  
Pectore parta suo quæsitaque præmia liquit.”









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